on the above factors, which are highly dynamic in nature, Indian Airlines launches short term promotion schemes from time to time.

International airport status to Nagpur Airport

†239. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to accord international airport status to Nagpur Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The State Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal to develop Nagpur Airport as a Multi-Modal International Hub Airport for passengers and cargo.

(c) In response to the proposal, Ministry of Civil Aviation has advised Government of Maharashtra to conduct a due diligence of Airport infrastructure at Nagpur and prepare a Road map for further activities to be undertaken.

Expansion and upgradation of air strips in Uttaranchal

†240. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of air strips in Uttaranchal and the number out of them, being used for regular flights;

(b) whether the State Government has sought assistance from the Central Government for their expansion and upgradation; and

(c) if so, the details of the assistance being provided by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There are five airstrips/airports in the State of Uttaranchal; out of which three belong to State Government. Only Dehradun Airport is being used for scheduled flights.

(b) Yes, Sir.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) For development of the Dehradun Airport, the State Government has been requested to acquire 300 acres of land and transfer it to Airports Authority of India (AAI) free of cost. The State Government has so far handed over only 173 acres of land. For extension of runway to 7,000 ft., construction of New Terminal Complex and allied facilities, Rs. 48.20 crores has been sanctioned by AAI.

AAI has also resurfaced runway and associated pavement at Pantnagar airport.

Modernization of Delhi and Mumbai airports

241. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minsiter of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh initiatives have been taken recently to speed up the process of upgradation and modernization of Delhi and Mumbai airports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the phased time-bound programmes drawn up for completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Fresh Initiatives in the process of restructuring of Delhi and Mumbai airport include:-

(i) Reconstruction of the Empowered Group of Minister (EGOM) to oversee the process of restructuring of Delhi and Mumbai.

(ii) Appointment of a Global Technical Advisor and Legal Consultant.

(iii) Maximum permissible limit of Foregin Direct Investment has been fixed at 49% and the remaining 25% equity will be held by the Indian Companies. The balance 26% will be held by Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Government Public Sector Units in the Joint Venture Companies.

(iv) Employees of AAI at Delhi and Mumbai airports will be on mandatory deputation with the Joint Venture Company for a period of 3 years and minimum of net 40% of the existing employees working at these airports excepting those working